

140 kgs of enriched uranium lost

WASHINGTON, June 25 (AP). — More than 140 kgs. of uranium — enough to make 20 atomic bombs — has been "lost" over 18 years in a factory specialising in nuclear fuel for atomic submarines, the Washington Post newspaper reported today. The newspaper, citing a source in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said the uranium had probably not been stolen but lost through careless, incomplete treatment and uncatalogued transfers. The quality of the uranium, at the Apollo factory, Pennsylvania, of Babcock and Wilcox's nuclear materials division, was such that it could have been used in making atomic bombs. The commission knew about the missing uranium but had kept it secret, the source said.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردين تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

Volume 2, Number 496

AMMAN, SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1977 — RAJAB 9, 1397

Price : 50 fils

Salt fetes King's silver jubilee

Raymond Barre arrives in Baghdad

Baghdad, June 25 (R). — Iraqi Premier Raymond Barre arrived here today for the first round of talks with his Iraqi host, Revolutionary Command Council Vice President Saddam Hussein, after arriving here today for a two-day visit.

An official announcement of the discussions covered friendly relations between two countries. Talks are expected to deal with internal problems.

French officials had said the visit, the premier's first since he took office last year, was part of continuing dialogue begun in 1966.

The Iraq News Agency (INA) had quoted the premier saying before leaving Paris his government was determined to develop its relations with Iraq by all means at its disposal.

Barre was also quoted saying Franco-Iraqi relations had witnessed basic developments during the past few years in the various domains.

His visit to Baghdad represents the will of the French government to pursue and develop the dialogue between the countries brought together by common conception of the role of the premier told INA.

Replying to a question, he there would be no peace in the Middle East unless the Palestinian people's legitimate rights were recognised.

Barre visited Iraq twice a year as a government minister.

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me Minister Mudar Badran, ministers and notables from the Balqa Governorate. In a speech which he delivered on the occasion, the director of the Salt Teachers Institute said that the institute had been one of the three-year development plan projects. Costing JD 2 million, it can accept 1000 students and graduate 400 per year he added.

After receiving a token gift from the director of the institute consisting of a mother of pearl box containing a copy of the Koran, the King opened an exhibition of paintings and stamps at the institute depicting the progress achieved by Jordan over the past 25 years.

The three-day exhibit was organised by government departments, schools and voluntary societies in the governorate.

The Governor of Balqa, Mr. Ahmad Maqayla, gave a luncheon in honour of King Hussein.

The King was accompanied on the visit to Salt by the Chief of the Royal Court, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Minister of Court Amer Khammash and the Chief Chamberlain, Prince Raad Ibn Zaid.

Afterwards a sports festival was held at the Salt Secondary School and the armed forces organised a fireworks display.

Earlier in the day, a popular march was held which started from the Balqa Governorate headquarters here and passed through the city's principal roads decorated with Jordanian flags and silver jubilee emblems. Thousands flocked from the various parts of the Balqa governorate to participate in the festivities.

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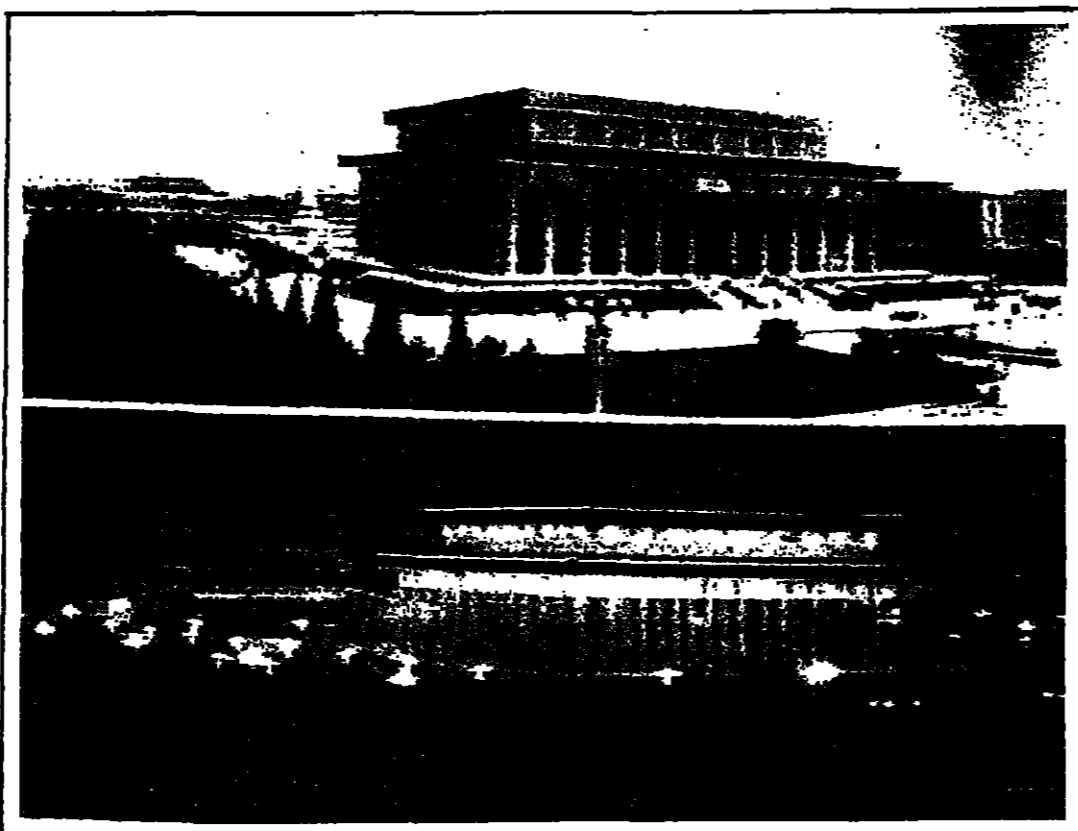
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MAO MEMORIAL COMPLETED — A memorial hall to the late Chinese Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung was completed on May 2nd in Peking after only six months of construction time according to the Peking Review. Photos which appear in the June 23 issue of the review show (upper half) the south face of the hall and (below) a night view of the front. (AP wirephoto).

Mozambique tipped to get military, financial assistance from OAU

LIBREVILLE, June 25 (R). — African foreign ministers today agreed to provide more material support "for the liberation of Zimbabwe" (Rhodesia).

Dr. Peter Onu, spokesman for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), told reporters that while a Nigerian resolution calling for such support did not specially mention military aid, it was reasonable to assume that "military assistance will be given."

"The time has come for action," said Dr. Onu after the second day of closed sessions of the OAU Ministerial Council. The Council also decided the OAU Defence Commission should meet "as a matter of urgency to decide what kind of military assistance the OAU can give to Mozambique."

The council agreed to send a delegation of five ministers to next week's meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Mozambique's complaints about Rhodesian raids across its borders.

The session passed the Nigerian-proposed resolution urging more material support for the armed struggle which it said was "the only option left for the liberation of Zimbabwe."

Dr. Onu, who is the OAU Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs, said today's five-and-a-half hour session had decided to create a solidarity front to help Mozambique.

Today delegates considered various ways of helping Mozambique cope with what it called increasing aggression by the white minority government in Rhodesia.

Mauritius Foreign Minister Sir Harold Walter recommended the establishment of a million dollar African fund for this purpose, arguing that Africa's own efforts would encourage countries outside the continent to back up their words of support with cash.

Mozambique Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano told the council's plenary session last night that his country, which he said had been subjected to over 140 acts of aggression from Rhodesia in the past 15 months, "would not hesitate to look for all necessary help to safeguard our sovereignty and territorial integrity and stop the killing of the civilian population."

He stressed the need to map out these problems would not interfere with continued development of a free trading system.

The industrial democracies also decided to step up economic expansion next year in the hope this will reverse the upward trend of unemployment.

The OECD ministers agreed their governments should aim for an average growth rate of 5 per cent for the 24-nation group.

Several ministers expressed disappointment at their countries' collective economic performance this year, when expansion is expected to reach barely 4 per cent.

The Central Committee wants to stress once more that the Spanish Communist Party is not subject to any directives and will continue to elaborate its political line and strategy with complete independence," the communiqué said.

"The so-called Eurocommunist way offers the only valid alternative for the advance of socialism: a truly revolutionary alternative which, without renouncing the finest traditions of the communist movement, associates — as did the founders of Marxism — socialist ideals with the profound and undeniable aspirations of the people to freedom."

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The joint declaration also called for a high-level conference on unemployment among young workers, and said it should be convened as a matter of urgency.

Western Germany and Japan came under pressure from several countries, including the United States and Britain, to take stronger reflationary action and allow their payments position to move into deficit.

But delegates said there was no immediate response to these appeals from either government.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal told report-

ers that West Germany and Japan, together with Holland and Switzerland, were running a collective surplus of \$10 to \$12 billion this year.

The United States, which is having to import large quantities of oil to fuel its strong economic expansion, is expecting a deficit of about the same amount.

The collective deficit for the entire OECD area this year was expected to be about \$30 billion, with most of the burden falling on the weaker countries.

For fate of south Lebanon Lebanese Front holds Arabs responsible

BEIRUT, June 25 (R). — The Lebanese Front of rightwing leaders said here today that Palestinian commando organisations and the Arab countries concerned would be held responsible for any possible developments in southern Lebanon.

A statement issued following a series of meetings to review the situation in the country, called on all Lebanese to remain ready to carry out their "national responsibilities."

It said the front listened to a report by its chairman, former President Camille Chamoun, on his recent talks with Jordanian and Syrian leaders.

"The persistence of current events in the south and which may have serious results on the future of Lebanon and the whole region is due to the aggressive action undertaken by armed Palestinian organisations for reasons incompatible with Lebanese interests," the announcement added.

The front's statement, read out at a press conference, specifically blamed "Palestinian commando organisations which did not abide by their commitments" under agreements reached at Arab summit conferences last year.

"In view of these incidents, the Lebanese Front holds Palestinian organisations and the Arab states which signed the Riyadh and Cairo agreements responsible for any development which may take place on Lebanese soil in the south, especially if it involves the occupation of part of the Lebanese homeland," it said.

The statement came in the wake of Arab press reports that the new rightwing Israeli rulers contemplated a blitzkrieg against the Arab countries, with the first strike directed at southern Lebanon.

It said Arab "silence" over this and other issues including the implementation of the 1969 Cairo agreement regulating relations between the overall Palestine commando movement and the Lebanese authorities, would compel the front to reconsider Lebanon's resort to the Arab League to resolve its problems.

At one stage, rightwing leaders had threatened to seek United Nations intervention to solve the Lebanese crisis. Some member states of the Arab League, which the front did not identify, are to blame for most of Lebanon's problems, the statement declared.

The statement reiterated that "failure" of the commando movement to abide in full by provisions of the Cairo agreement had compelled the front to consider the accord null and void earlier this year.

More families evacuated the leftist-held southern townships of Khiam and Nabatieh today following an intermittent

artillery duel travellers to Sidon said.

Some 70 families left Khiam alone when the almost daily artillery exchanges took place today between Lebanese rightists and their leftist-Palestinian adversaries in the region, according to the travellers.

No casualties were reported as a result of the duel.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butros had talks here today with the ambassadors of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait which he is due to visit next week. He also conferred with U.S. Ambassador Richard Parker, who declined to make any statement.

The three states are represented on the four-man committee in charge of supervising the latest truce in Lebanon.

Mr. Butros told reporters his talks with Arab envoys dealt with subjects to be raised during his coming tour and problems from which Lebanon was presently suffering.

He said the aim of the American ambassador's call was to evaluate the Middle East situation in the light of the recent change of government in Israel.

The discussions with Mr. Parker also covered Lebanese-American issues, both political and economic, the foreign minister added.

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Spanish Communist Party defends Carrillo against Moscow attack

MADRID, June 25 (R). — The Spanish Communist Party tonight responded to fierce Soviet criticism of its independent line by stressing socialism could only be implanted in the West through democracy

A communiqué released by the Central Committee of the recently-legalised Spanish party said the attack on Secretary General Santiago Carrillo in the official Soviet foreign affairs weekly New Times two days ago was an attack on "all communist parties which are for a democratic way to socialism and for socialism within democracy."

New Times accused Senor Carrillo of anti-Sovietism and said the 61-year-old leader was trying to split the world communist movement.

Today's communiqué, proposed by party President Dolores Ibarruri and other party members who had spent long periods of exile in the Soviet Union said so-called "Eurocomm-

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OECD countries renew pledge not to return to protectionism in world trade, boost economic expansion

PARIS, June 25 (Agencies). — The 24 member countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development last night renewed for another year their 1974 "trade pledge" aimed at forestalling a return to protectionism in world trade.

Under the declaration, the industrial democracies grouped in the OECD undertake to avoid unilateral measures to restrict imports or other current operations.

They also commit themselves to abstaining from measures to "artificially" stimulate exports.

The declaration specifically says the OECD member countries will avoid any "destructive competition" in the field of official export credits.

The "trade pledge" was first adopted in the wake of the 1973-74 oil crisis when the Western countries were faced with considerable financial difficulties.

The main problems facing the OECD area as a whole at present are the slow rate of economic recovery, record unemployment and continued high inflation.

Most of the finance ministers participating in the two-day OECD annual ministerial meeting which wound up here last

night stressed the need to map out these problems would not interfere with continued development of a free trading system.

The industrial democracies also decided to step up economic expansion next year in the hope this will reverse the upward trend of unemployment.

The OECD ministers agreed their governments should aim for an average growth rate of 5 per cent for the 24-nation group.

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JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily
published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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University Road - P.O. Box 6710 - Amman, Jordan

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two Jordanian dailies Saturday were concerned, in their different analyses, with the dangers of a possible Israeli aggression.

Al Rai said that Israel Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, in a recent interview with a European radio, said that Israel will not withdraw from Arab lands occupied in June 1967, and that "reality" demands that the Israelis and the Arabs must learn to co-exist, otherwise the conflict would not be resolved without a clash in which one of the two mentioned nationalities would be obliterated, thus putting a final end to the conflict.

The paper added that in a further statement on Friday, Gen. Weizman warned the "Arabs of Galilee" that they must get used to co-existence with the Israelis and should understand "that this land is our land" and that if they do not accept the fact they would be sent to the "land they came from."

The paper explained that Gen. Weizman could only dare to speak like an "arrogant fascist" because he relies on:

1. Vast amounts of modern weaponry backed by nuclear weapons;

2. He is convinced that the Arabs have accepted as fact that the Israelis are a daring lot and that the Arabs are used to actions by Israel more frightening than Gen. Weizman's statements.

The only new thing in Gen. Weizman's statements, the paper continues, are:

1. They constitute another challenge to the Arabs and to the world at large;

2. They show that, when necessary, Israel would resort to war;

3. That the conflict is due to the existence of two opposing nationalities and that the Arabs "must submit" otherwise Gen. Weizman will obliterate them.

The paper concluded by noting that Gen. Weizman's statements should not be regarded in isolation from the call by Israel's prime minister for the establishment of new settlements on the West Bank, nor

in isolation from what is currently taking place in south Lebanon and, most important of all, these statements should not be taken in isolation from the atmosphere of war and of military preparations which have dominated the aggressive Israeli society for the past weeks.

Al Sha'b said that an objective analysis of the current changes and developments, and the need for an Arab preparedness that these changes and developments require, does not leave place for any optimism. The sad truth is that the Arabs are currently below the level of meeting the dangerous challenges which surround them. Thus, Arab destiny is now facing a crisis which it never witnessed before in its modern history.

The crisis lies in the expansion of the Israeli military machine backed, as it is, by nuclear weapons that can hit Arab depths and the Israeli current policy which is not ashamed to speak of occupied lands as territories "liberated" or about to be "liberated".

The paper suggested two basic policy lines for the Arabs to follow in order to face up to the current challenges and those of the future:

1. An Arab summit of the confrontation states must convene as soon as possible in order to re-evaluate inter-Arab relations, to lay down a joint Arab plan for co-ordination in political and military fields, to allow each Arab country to face up to its historical responsibilities, and to decide what is required of each Arab country in order to protect both the Arab front-line and the Arab depth.

2. A comprehensive Arab summit must convene which would work on the basis of the truth that facing the enemy is not the responsibility of the confrontation states alone but is a full Arab responsibility. This means that the so-called supporting states must afford the Arab soldier at the front not just the military ability to stand fast at his post but the military ability, also, to deter an Israeli adventure, at any time and at any place.

Israel and torture: A Sunday Times report

Part III

EDITOR'S NOTE: On June 19, 1977 THE SUNDAY TIMES ran a detailed inquiry by the Insight team into the use of torture by Israel on Arab detainees in the occupied territories.

"Insight has questioned 44 Arabs who claim to have been ill-treated or tortured. Most of them still live in the occupied areas and some are willing to be named. We have tape recorded 110,000 words of testimony, and obtained corroboration wherever possible. Because the findings contradict official denials (by Israel) the evidence is set out in considerable detail..." THE SUNDAY TIMES says on its front page.

It continues "The practices we have examined have occurred throughout the ten years of Israeli occupation; our evidence spans this period, the last base being in December 1967. There is no reason to believe it has ceased: the allegations are continuing."

We continue with an analysis of Israeli reaction to Arab resistance and the role of the military courts in covering up cases of torture.

There are, of course, many who will passionately reject our evidence as literally unthinkable. Many more will find in the idea of a persecuted race becoming in turn the persecutor a paradox so distasteful as to demand better evidence than perhaps would be needed against other countries. Even more will point out that Israel claims -- and undoubtedly feels itself -- to be at war for its life; and that the Arabs' record on civil liberties is, to say the least, poor.

The point, of course, is that Israel itself does not, in theory, accept the unspoken implications of their argument.

Israel does not admit that torture is justified by its situation. It denies that torture is ever used. Nor does Israel justify failures in civil rights by comparisons with Arab deficiencies. On the contrary, it is fundamental to Israel's ethos and to its claims for international support that it is part of the West -- thus to be judged by Western standards. Israel claims as "a fact" -- in the words of an official Israeli observer to a United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting in March 1973 -- "that the human rights of the civilian population (in the occupied territories) have been and are fully respected and protected.... The realities are those of an open society, tranquil and relaxed."

After a decade of military occupation, Israel has felt able to state, in its official handbook:

"The administered areas are tranquil and thriving today.... Arabs and Israelis who until 1967 had lived in mutual separation and estrangement, are today enjoying the beginnings of a peaceful and fruitful co-existence."

Since our thesis is precisely that the international need to maintain that position goes far to explain the use of torture, it is necessary to begin by outlining Israel's response to the problems of "co-existence":

ON THE WEST BANK, Palestinian reaction to the Israeli occupation has run through three phases. Phase One: active resistance from mid-1967 to the end of 1969. By the end of 1969 raids on border

settlements had almost died out.

Phase Two from mid-1970 brought relative quiescence. The activists looked abroad: to the Munich Olympics of September 1972, for instance.

Phase Three can be traced back to the Israeli raid on Beirut in April 1973, when it seized thousands of documents. On the basis of these, the West Bank, and, significantly, Galilee, within Israel's old borders, saw fresh waves of arrests of suspected fedayeen activists or sympathisers. The unrest these sparked -- largely in the form of civil disorders and demonstrations by high school students -- has ebbed and flowed but never really died. With continued Israeli settlement on the West Bank, and Palestinian suicide raids like those on Kiryat Shmuna, Maalot and Beit Shean, feeling between the two communities has steadily worsened.

In Gaza, the sequence has been different. With 300,000 refugees crammed into camps alongside 100,000 native Gazans, the area is one of the most overcrowded in the world -- and perfect guerrilla country. Active resistance continued there until mid-1971, when it degenerated into a mini civil war between rival Palestinian factions. Israel bulldozed wide roads through the camps as the first step towards their pacification and control. By mid-1972 the fedayeen were crushed.

Israel has never denied that its battle against the Palestinian resistance has involved tough measures. It has demolished homes (16,212 between July 1967 and August 1971 according to an independently-kept log) and deported "known agents of subversion" (1,130 to Jordan since 1967 according to Jordanian police records). But it points out that the Arabs have free municipal elections and enjoy better standards of living than Arabs in Egypt, Syria and Lebanon, and that it uses punitive measures with restraint.

AGAINST THIS background, Israel has confronted the hardest problem for any occupying power, its treatment of resisters and terrorists. In 1976 it claimed to have broken up

91 sabotage rings and arrested 807 people connected with them.

Even before its 1967 victory, Israel had prepared an administrative structure for territories to be occupied -- and a system of military courts. But the round-ups of late 1967 and early 1968 swamped the system. Faced with similar problems in the Mandate days, the British resorted to detention camps -- one near Tel Aviv; one in the desert near Gaza. (Arabs and Jews alike still refer to them as "concentration camps"; conditions were apparently dreadful.)

The idea of the Jews of all people reviving "concentration camps" was rejected in emotional debates in the Israeli parliament. There was no alternative to over-crowding the jails of Israel and the occupied territories with detainees. In the months after the 1967 war, the number held without trial passed 2,000. By early 1970 it was still 1,923.

But, slowly, the military courts caught up. Gradually, almost all Arabs picked up in new sweeps -- and most of those held from the early days -- were convicted by the military courts of "security offences" ranging from membership of an illegal organisation, distributing leaflets, or daubing slogans, to possessing arms or committing sabotage or murder.

Ten years after the occupation, Israel has (on the latest published figure) only 37 detainees. But nearly 60 per cent of all prisoners in jail in Israel or the occupied areas are Arabs found guilty of security offences -- some 3,200 out of 5,800.

Thus Israel can demonstrate to itself and to the world that it has no political prisoners -- only convicted terrorists. As Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Jacob Doron, asked in a speech last November: "What is wrong with the holding of trials and the conviction of those found guilty after due process of law?" The answer is: when those public convictions are gained by means of secret torture.

THE MILITARY COURTS are the fulcrum of Israel's claim to rule the occupied territories according to the rule

of law. We have talked with six lawyers -- two Israelis and four Palestinians -- who regularly appear in them to defend those accused of security offences. For the record, their names are: Felicia Langer, Lea Tsemel, Wasfi O. Masri, Anton Jaser, Elias Khoury and Fayez Abu Rahme. Their unanimous opinion is that the military courts collude in and knowingly conceal the use of torture by Israel's intelligence and security services. The mechanism is, in its way, elegant, almost syllogistic. Most convictions in those courts are based on confessions by the accused; most of those confessions, the lawyers are convinced, are extracted by ill-treatment or torture; almost without exception the courts reject that contention.

A security suspect in the occupied territories is usually arrested by Israeli soldiers or border police, accompanied mostly by one or more men in civilian clothes. Most Palestinians we spoke to referred to the plain-clothes men as Shin Beth, Israel's internal security service. (In fact, we have learned they are just as likely to belong to Israel's military intelligence.)

The suspect can be held for up to 18 days before being taken before a military judge. He can order further detention of up to six months. In this time the suspect is interrogated. When eventually he is brought to trial -- up to a year later -- the prosecution is almost invariably equipped with a statement, signed by the suspect, confessing to at least some of the charges.

Israel says that all confessions are voluntary. The six advocates we have spoken to do not believe this. Wasfi O. Masri, a 60-year-old lawyer from Nablus, and a senior judge under Jordanian rule said: "In 90 per cent of cases I have, the prisoner had told me that he was beaten and tortured. Of course it is very difficult to prove because they don't have witnesses to see them beaten. But I am certain that it happens."

The military courts usually have three military judges -- of whom only one must have been qualified, through six years at the Bar, to become a civilian judge. The Military Regulations they apply are based to some extent on regulations drawn up by the British in 1945 -- to counter mainly Jewish terrorism.

But it is not in the courts that the crucial manoeuvre takes place. The courts do indeed allow defence counsel to challenge the validity of confessions. When that occurs, a "little trial" (in Hebrew, a zura) is held.

This is what happens. The defendant tells the court that he was ill-treated or tortured. The prosecution then produces the policeman or army officer who took the confession. According to the young Israeli-born advocate Lea Tsemel, the officer tells the court: "I sat with the suspect, we had coffee together. I gave him cigarettes. He talked freely, and everything was normal." And

this officer is almost always telling the truth.

The catch is that the policeman may indeed have taken the statement. But he did not conduct the interrogation. Many of the former prisoners we questioned said that after they had agreed to make a statement they were passed from interrogators to the police, together with a note of the offences they were admitting. The new officer then composed the statement for the court.

Several had tried to change their minds about confessing. One, Shehadeh Shaladeh of Ramallah, protested for instance, that he could not read his supposed confession because it was in Hebrew. (This is a common complaint.) "The officer left the room and two men in civilian clothes came in. I told them I wanted to know what I was signing. They said, 'we haven't got time for all that' and they started beating me. So I said 'okay, okay. I'll sign'."

It is almost impossible for defendants to bring their real interrogators to court because they use Arab names -- "Abu-Sami", "Abu-Jamil", "Abu-Daoud" -- or nicknames like "Jacky", "Danny" or "Ari". Even if the defendants did succeed, the result was the same. Lea Tsemel told us how she had finally brought to court an interrogator her client had described. "He just looked at the defendant and said he had never seen him before in his life."

Successful challenges to the validity of confessions are rare. Wasfi O. Masri is much admired by other advocates for having persuaded military courts to rule out confessions in five cases -- from a total, he estimates as "thousands." Lea Tsemel said she had "almost succeeded once."

Her real role, she explained, was plain bargaining. One of her clients was the only survivor of a band of infiltrators who had been shot down by an Israeli patrol. "He told me he had suffered very bad torture and he wanted to protest in court. The prosecution offered a deal. If I did not contest his confession they would ask for a maximum of 18 years. As he could have got life, I advised him to agree."

A Palestinian advocate from Gaza, Fayez Abu Rahme, told us that he had decided not to take any more security cases: "I told the Israelis. I have had enough. I told them they should just go back to internment and end this farce."

The question, therefore, is what happens in those secret interrogation sessions?

The story of Ghassan Harb

GHASSAN HARB is a 37-year-old Palestinian intellectual and journalist from Ramallah, on the West Bank ten miles north of Jerusalem. On the night of April 22-23, 1974 he and his wife were staying with his father-in-law there. Shortly after midnight, they were woken by half a dozen Israeli soldiers and two men in civilian clothes. One of the civil-

ians told Harb to get dressed.

"What is the matter?" Harb asked.

"You will find out," the man replied. Harb was handcuffed, blindfolded and bundled into a vehicle which took him to Ramallah prison.

What happened to Ghassan Harb over the two months that followed has already excited international attention. When his case was raised at the United Nations last year, Israel's ambassador there, Jacob Doron, dismissed it as "typical of the kind of atrocity stories spread against the Israeli administration by certain elements."

What he meant was that Harb was a communist. It is true, however, that both sides, Israel and its accusers, have distorted the Harb case -- in part because the key witness, Harb himself, was unavailable. For two-and-a-half years after that midnight visit, Harb was detained without trial.

Only on Jan. 18 this year was he released and sent home. Soon afterwards, we recorded for the first time his own account of his experiences. Harb struck us as an excellent witness: careful, restrained, questioning his own impressions and anxious to find points that might be verified. This, in essence, is his story.

For the first 50 days, nothing happened to him. He was punched and kicked on his arrival at prison and, still blindfolded, heard others getting the same treatment. But then, after three nights in a small cell with six other prisoners, he was moved to a larger room containing 40 men. As the days passed, the others -- most of whom had been arrested on the same night as himself -- were taken for questioning. After six, seven or sometimes 15 days they would return "in very bad condition," he says. "They had been beaten. You could see the marks on their faces and chests." Strangely, they appear to have talked very little. It was not until June 12, 51 days after his arrest, that Harb's own turn came.

He was blindfolded again and made to lie down in what he thinks was a jeep for a journey of two or three hours. When the jeep stopped at last, and Harb got out, still blindfolded, a heavy cloth bag was put over his head. After perhaps 30 or 40 minutes just standing there with his hands in the air -- when there are no conditions, perhaps a person thinks that the time is longer than it really is -- Harb adds cautiously -- he was taken into a room, and both blindfolds were removed. A man in civilian clothes addressed him in Arabic.

"Dou you know where you are?"

"No," Harb said.

"You are in Kasr Al Nihave." That is the name of a prison in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, notorious for its tortures and secret executions. Harb knew he was not in Iraq. But he also knew what Kasr Al Nihave means: The Palace of the End. And he knew what his interrogator meant.

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Ma'in: Treasure house of Byzantine churches, rich mosaics and Christian symbolism

By Nadia Hazboun
Special to the Jordan Times

Madaba and all the surrounding villages located in the area between Amman and Karak used to be a great bustling city in Byzantine times.

According to ancient transcripts, 365 churches were built in the Byzantine capital. A few dozen of these churches have been excavated, but most of them remain to be discovered by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, a foreign institution or a convent.

Ma'in is one of the villages that surrounds Madaba and was once one of the centres of the Byzantine city.

Ma'in Mosaics

In February 1977, Mr. Mahmoud Rossan, Director of the Department of Archaeology in Madaba, got the approval of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities to start excavating in Ma'in. Every month, Mahmoud and his team -- most of them local inhabitants -- discover new mosaics.

The decision on where to excavate was taken when workers uncovered an ancient wall of three stones on top of each other while building new streets in Ma'in.

Identification of ruins and items is the most difficult and the most interesting part of a new discovery. In Ma'in, the buildings, pottery, coins, jewelry, designs and pictures prove the existence of inhabitants of five different epochs: The Ayoubi, Abbasid, Omayyad, late Byzantine and early Byzantine. Every stratum includes items belonging to a different epoch. The Ayoubi, Abbasid and Omayyad items are mostly pottery. The Byzantine periods are distinguished by architecture.

Ayoubi pottery is more shiny and greasy than any of

the others, whereas Omayyad pottery is more decorative and affected by the late Byzantine period. Painted pottery was also one of the characteristics of the Omayyad period.

Late Byzantine pottery from the 6th, 7th and 8th centuries A.D. is much more decorative and has many Christian signs on it -- such as fish, palm trees, grapes and signs of crosses.

The Christian Fish

It is interesting to mention something about the use of Christian signs in Byzantine times. As Christians were rejected by the Romans, they passed a secret sign of a fish among themselves. Thus, if they wanted to know whether somebody was a Christian or not, they used to draw a sign of half a fish for him. The Christian would complete the drawing of the fish, whereas a non-Christian would think of it as a meaningless sign.

The source of the fish sign is Greek. Christians believe that the initials of the Greek word for fish stand for "Jesus Christ, The Lord, The Saviour".

Mr. Rossan even believe that the site in Ma'in used to be a Roman town before Byzantine times, because the columns show Roman architectural styles with a later Byzantine addition of decorations and designs.

The clearest item of clay found was a statue of a man with a decorated halo on his head. The man has not been identified.

Many coins were also found there, but they have not been washed and identified.

Byzantine Church

The church discovered in Ma'in is a good example of the early Byzantine style. Such



Capital of a column found in Ma'in.

churches were greatly influenced by Roman architecture and design, huge proportions and simple decorations. The church was quite long in size, yet narrow. It was also divided into three parts inside by huge columns.

The church generally ran from east to west with the altar placed at the very eastern end. The columns consisted of a base, column and a capital on top. A wall would hold the bases of the columns in one line. Thus excavators usually discover the base in its place, whereas columns fall at a distance around the bases. Usually columns fall into pieces, in which case the capitals would fall even further because of their location at the very top of the columns.

Ma'in's church differs in one way: Since its congregation decreased during the late Byzantine time, architects cut the old church down the middle by a huge wall and moved all the decorations and capitals to the top of the separating wall. The size of the capitals are like those in any other Byzantine church, but they are on top of the wall instead of the columns. They also seem Roman in size with Byzantine decorations and designs added. Signs of the cross, sun rays, heads of famous people or saints, palm trees, fish, grapes and vines adorn the capitals. Columns are scattered in the yard -- all of them broken.

Mosaic Pavement

The pavement is covered with mosaics, as in all Byzantine churches. Unlike Roman mosaics, Byzantine mosaics are much brighter in colour and include more vivid pictures. The pictures in the pavement of this church are different. They include birds (peacocks), plants, vases of flowers and many other unidentified designs. The basic design of the mosaics is a great circle in the middle of the church and another smaller circle inside. The small circle is full of small squares with pictures and other decorations.

The altar has not yet been discovered. In fact it might never be because modern buildings stand atop the location of the altar. All that was found while digging through the church towards the altar was a pavement -- not a mosaic pavement -- and a number of columns. Mr. Rossan guessed that the altar of the church might be like the one on Mount Nebo. It has a paved beginning, a few steps and then the table.

Outside the wall, to the southeast of the church, excavators

found a grave. First they discovered a large stone covering a paved area. Then they noticed that the soil was moving under the stone. When they lifted it, they discovered a deep hollow opening underneath. They found a long room with a cave on either side. Only one cave has been completely cleaned and searched. The second is still full of soil and stones. It has not been searched because cleaning the narrow area is suffocating, as Mr. Rossan found out to his misfortune.

CONFERENCE ON BARREN LANDS OPENS IN SYRIA

DAMASCUS, June 25 (R). -- Arab and foreign experts today began a five-day conference in the summer resort of Bludan, near Damascus, on the problem of barren lands in the Arab countries.

The meeting is organised by the Arab Centre for Research on Barren Lands in cooperation with the Arab Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Delegates from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation, along with other world and Arab groups, are attending the deliberations.

Decisions reached will be presented at a conference on the same subject in Nairobi in August.

Jordan is represented by Mahmoud Jundi, Director of Pastures and Land Preservation at the Ministry of Agriculture.

Construction of warehouses, silos starts in Sudan

KHARTOUM, June 24 (SANA). -- Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have started to construct warehouses and silos in Sudan to ensure sufficient food reserve for Arab countries.

The \$6 billion project will ensure 42 per cent of Arab demand for vegetable oil, 58 per cent for primary foodstuffs and 20 per cent for sugar until 1985.

FOUR COMPANIES BANNED FOR ISRAEL DEALINGS

AMMAN (JNA). -- Minister of Finance Dr. Mohammad Dabbes has banned four American, Japanese, Mexican and Indian companies and placed three Greek, Yugoslav and Turkish ships on the blacklist for their contravention of Arab boycott regulations against Israel.

The minister also lifted a ban on three Danish, Yugoslav and French firms together with seven vessels of different nationalities after they responded to the regulations.

Air agreement signed with Malaysia

AMMAN (JNA). -- The Jordanian and Malaysian governments signed a bilateral air transport agreement between the two countries at the Department of Civil Aviation Saturday.

Under this agreement, Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, will operate flights between Amman and Kuala Lumpur via Bahrain and Bangkok.

The accord was signed for Jordan by Director General of Civil Aviation, Sharif Ghazi Rakan, and for Malaysia by Prince Abdul Aziz bin Mohammad Hazzeh, non-resident ambassador in Jordan.

The Jordanian and Malaysian governments initiated the agreement in 1974.

Dutch aid for school projects discussed

AMMAN (JNA). -- Officials in the National Planning Council Saturday discussed with a team of Dutch experts possible aid for vocational, industrial and agricultural school projects and several schemes to be undertaken by the Farmers Association in the Jordan Valley.

The Dutch team will make an on-the-spot investigation of these projects.

Jordan was represented in these talks by a group headed by the Secretary General of the National Planning Council, Dr. Taysir Abdul Jabbar. The four-man Dutch team, which arrived here Friday, was led by a representative of the Ministry of Development and Cooperation.

World Bank Team Holds Talks

Meanwhile, Dr. Abdul Jabbar Saturday reviewed Jordan's economic situation and pro-

SWISS TEAM DUE

AMMAN (JNA). -- A Swiss economic delegation representing leading Swiss companies arrives in Amman on July 13 for talks with Jordanian officials to promote trade between the two countries.



Crowds throng in the centre of Salt Saturday as floats pass by in celebration of His Majesty King Hussein's silver jubilee. (JNA photo).

W. BANK MAYORS ASKED TO DEPOSIT ARAB AID IN BANK OF ISRAEL

AMMAN (JNA). -- The Israeli occupation authorities have officially asked heads of municipalities on the occupied West Bank to deposit financial aid acquired from Arab states to the Central Bank of Israel and to convert hard currency in their possession into Israeli pounds to curb inflation.

Al Dustour newspaper added in its report Saturday that the heads of municipalities had categorically rejected the Israeli request aimed at impeding development projects in the occupied Arab territories.

Al Aqsa excavation reaches 13 metres

AMMAN (JNA). -- Current Israeli excavations under Al Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest shrine in Islam, have reached 13 metres in depth and thus threaten the mosque in the event of any natural or artificial subsidence, according to reports reaching here from occupied Jerusalem.

The president of the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs, Mr. Ahmad Touqan, told reporters that after their occupation of Arab Jerusalem in 1967, the Israeli authorities began to dig under historic Arab buildings on the pretext of searching for Israeli remains of the Temple.

The excavations resulted in serious cracks in scores of buildings in the area. In addition, many other buildings were damaged by an operation to extend the area in front of the Wailing Wall.

Mr. Touqan said that the Israelis also dug a vault under Islamic Waqf properties adjoining the southern and southeastern wall of Al Aqsa to the length of more than 230 metres and a depth of between nine and ten metres.

Jordan, Mr. Touqan added, had raised the question of Israel's destructive work at the United Nations Security Council, UNESCO and other specialised bodies.

Despite repeated condemnations and calls to stop the excavations, the Israelis continued their operation. The issue was also put forward at Arab and Islamic conferences, which were asked to bear their responsibilities in this respect, Mr. Touqan said.

The Christian world has also been critical of such Israeli practices, he stated. Dr. Kathleen Kenyon, head of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, writing in the London Times recently denounced the Israeli excavations in Jerusalem, which aim to disfigure the historical features of the Holy City. She appealed to world opinion to make concerted efforts to stop these acts.

Magazine praises role of Aqaba floating dock

AMMAN (JNA). -- An international trade magazine has paid tribute to the economic importance of the floating dock at the Port of Aqaba.

The London-based 'Alam Al Tijara' magazine said the new dock was installed in March to solve port congestion and stop merchandise piling up at the harbour.

The magazine said Jordan had reduced fines for delays at the port from 50 to 30 per cent as of March 23 for ships from Europe. Jordan also cut the fine from 30 to ten per cent as of the end of March for ships from the U.S.

The magazine emphasised that the port is considered an open harbour for all ships, allowing them to unload quickly and with only minimum charges.

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UNCTAD cotton summit ends divided over buffer stocks

GENEVA, June 25 (R). — Third World cotton producing countries were divided over the merits of a proposed international buffer stock scheme at a week-long meeting ending here yesterday on ways of stabilising fluctuating prices and supplies, conference sources said.

The United States, a major exporter, opposed the buffer stock proposal, saying it was technically and economically unfeasible and there was no adequate justification for it.

The 54-nation meeting, held under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), agreed that government experts should analyse current problems in the international cotton trade, particularly excessive price swings, and should recommend appropriate measures for dealing with them.

The meeting was one of a series organised by UNCTAD as part of an "integrated programme" aimed at negotiating stabilisation agreements for a

number of leading commodities to protect export earnings of Third World producers.

Egypt, Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and most African producing countries favoured setting up a reserve buffer stockpile which would keep prices steady by buying cotton when plentiful supplies drove prices down, and selling when they rose in times of scarcity.

But four Latin American exporters -- Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Colombia -- said they felt establishment of reserve stocks did not read into a real market need. They considered free play of market forces was the proper mechanism for achieving long-

term balance between supply and demand, and they preferred that this not be interfered with.

Amongst consumer delegations the nine-nation European Economic Community (EEC) said it was concerned about large fluctuations in cotton prices over the last few years. Identification of specific problems affecting the cotton market should precede the search for a solution, the EEC said.

Japan said a sound cotton trade required stabilisation of prices and greater competitiveness with man-made fibres.

The meeting set no date for the future expert talks. But it said their aim would be to analyse excessive price fluctu-

ations and to work out measures to make the market as transparent as necessary in transactions and information, and to progressively clarify questions of grades and qualities of cotton.

The expert meeting would also analyse the structure of prices and costs of production and their inter-relationship, and measures to stimulate demand and to strengthen work in research and development of cotton markets as well as the production of finished goods.

The experts should recommend appropriate measures and techniques to a subsequent preparatory meeting on cotton to be convened at a later unspecified date, the session decided.

But he added: "I would like to assure all Western journalists that the socialist countries are honest, sincere and punctual payers."

The three-day Comecon summit, which ended Thursday, approved a programme to develop as fast as possible manufacture of equipment for atomic power stations in an effort to make nuclear power a key element in solving energy problems.

One speaker at the summit said the aim was to more than double every five years the nuclear power capacity of the grouping -- which evidently does not share the West's concern about the possible risks.

Comecon to push nuclear energy

WARSAW, June 25 (R). — The chief official of the Communist economic grouping Comecon said here yesterday that the vast sums Western countries have lent to Eastern Europe will be punctually repaid.

Mr. Nikolai Fadzdeyev, secretary of the nine-member grouping's council, spoke at a press conference after an annual Comecon prime ministers' meeting devoted mainly to energy problems in the next decade.

In response to a question on the debts, estimated in tens of billions of dollars, which the Communist states have run up to Western banks to buy machinery and foodstuffs, Mr. Fadzdeyev said these were primarily the concern of the individual countries involved.

But he added: "I would like to assure all Western journalists that the socialist countries are honest, sincere and punctual payers."

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One speaker at the summit said the aim was to more than double every five years the nuclear power capacity of the grouping -- which evidently does not share the West's concern about the possible risks.

House attempt to block U.S. aid runs up against Carter opposition

WASHINGTON, June 25 (R). — A move by the House of Representatives to prevent international lending institutions using U.S. contributions to aid certain nations is unworkable, Carter administration and monetary sources said yesterday.

The sources said the House action ran counter to the charters of most of the institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the International Development Association.

The House, brushing aside vigorous objections by President Carter, last night passed by 208-174 a foreign aid spending bill of \$6.7 billion -- almost \$1 billion under the Carter administration's original request.

It also tagged on amendments that would bar U.S. money provided to institutions such as the World Bank and the International Development Association from being used to give aid to seven openly communist-dominated countries -- Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Cuba, Mozambique, Angola and Uganda.

Mr. Carter objected that such restrictions would severely handicap his ability to promote U.S. interests abroad.

The Carter administration, which now looks to the Senate to overturn the House action, fought against the amendments.

The White House said the House's decision "could lead to (the) politicisation of tra-

ditionally non-political institutions and invite other countries to take similar actions."

Administration sources said that in theory the House's restrictions might appear threatening, but in practice could not work.

Although lawyers for the international financial institutions, as well as for the State Department, are studying the situation, monetary sources agreed with the administration assessment.

The sources said the ideals of the international aid institutions -- founded in many cases at the instigation of the

United States -- are to help poor countries in need, regardless of political persuasion.

The charters of most of the institutions either prohibit the earmarking of funds by contributors or require that any loans made are on a pro-rata basis from all contributing countries.

"If we allow the United States to dictate to whom we give money, then we might just as well pack up now. And if we did, that could well worsen the situation, creating more Angolas and Mozambiques," an official of one international agency said.

Bahrain's supertanker dry dock nears completion

BAHRAIN, June 25 (AFP). — Shipping agents from 14 of the world's top seafaring nations have assembled to inspect the gigantic dry dock for supertankers yesterday nearing completion here.

The dock, which is expected to cost nearly \$300 million, is the first pan-Arab Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) enterprise with Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Libya and Egypt sharing in the financing.

The present gathering of agents is believed to be the largest marketing exercise ever staged in this region. The "wo-

riking week-end" began with a tour of the dock complex which is known as the Arabian Ship Repair Yard (ASRY). The tour finished at the dock basin, which measures 375 metres (about 410 yards) by 75 metres (about 80 yards) and is capable of handling tankers of up to 1,500,000 tons.

The dock and its vast array of workshops and ancillary buildings have taken only three years to complete, including the planning stage.

The dock expects to handle its first ship at the beginning of October and will be opened formally on Dec. 16, Bahrain's national day.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Following are official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian dinars for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency.

Saudi riyal	82.5	93.0
Lebanese pound	107.5	108.0
Syrian pound	80.9	81.2
Iraqi dinar	940	945
Kuwaiti dinar	1137	1141
Egyptian pound	467	477
Libyan dinar	740	750
UAE dirham	83.5	84.5
U.K. sterling	569	575
U.S. dollar	330	332
German mark	140.3	140.7
French franc	67	67.3
Swiss franc	132.3	132.7
Italian lira (for every 100)	34.7	37.6

Austria, Tunisia seek expansion of trade

VIENNA, June 25 (R). — Tunisian Premier Hedi Nouria, midway through his five-day official visit to Austria, complained that Austrian sales to Tunisia outweighed purchases by 10-to-one.

During a round-table discussion with leading Austrian businessmen, Mr. Nouria said his government was particularly keen to expand joint ventures in fields where Austria and already offered help -- such as the manufacture of tractors and irrigation equipment.

Mr. Nouria appealed to the businessmen to take another look at ways of opening up trade in these areas as well as in the leather goods and shoes sector.

Under Tunisia's current five-year plan, huge investments are planned in manufacturing and transport industries with

help from foreign companies, he declared.

But because of Tunisia's trade deficit with Austria, these new projects would aim to step up exports to European markets including Austria, he added.

According to Austrian statistics, imports from Tunisia have slipped steadily in recent years to around 50 million schillings (\$1.6 million) in 1976, compared to rising exports of 220 million schillings (\$71 million) last year.

Austrian officials acknowledge the gap has continued to widen this year.

Austria, along with its partners in the seven-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA), have been looking recently to North African and Middle Eastern countries for new trading outlets, following

a similar move by the rival European Common Market bloc.

The EFTA states, "poor brothers" to the more powerful Common Market, are afraid that the EEC may be gaining the upper hand in foreign trade by concluding wide-ranging deals with Mediterranean countries including Tunisia.

At a summit meeting here last month, the EFTA seven promised to encourage a more aggressive sales push by private businesses.

Earlier today Mr. Nouria, accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Ibrahim Turki, attended a formal luncheon given by Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* ZURICH, June 25 (R). — The new chairman of Credit Suisse Bank told shareholders yesterday that bona fide depositors would not lose their money in a £500 million financial scandal at the bank's Chiasso Branch. More than 3,000 shareholders turned up in a sultry exhibition hall to hear a special report from the chairman, Dr. Oswald Aeppli. He said the bank's profits would probably fall this year, but it did not expect to reduce its dividends.

* WASHINGTON, June 25 (R). — President Carter has volunteered to pay the government \$6 thousand in taxes even though no tax is due, the White House said yesterday. Because sales from his peanut farm business did not do as well as previously estimated, President Carter actually was due to receive a refund of \$26,026 from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). But the president wrote to the IRS saying: "Because of my strong feeling that a person should pay some tax on his income, I ask that you accept the amount of \$6,000."

COLORFUL LANGUAGE

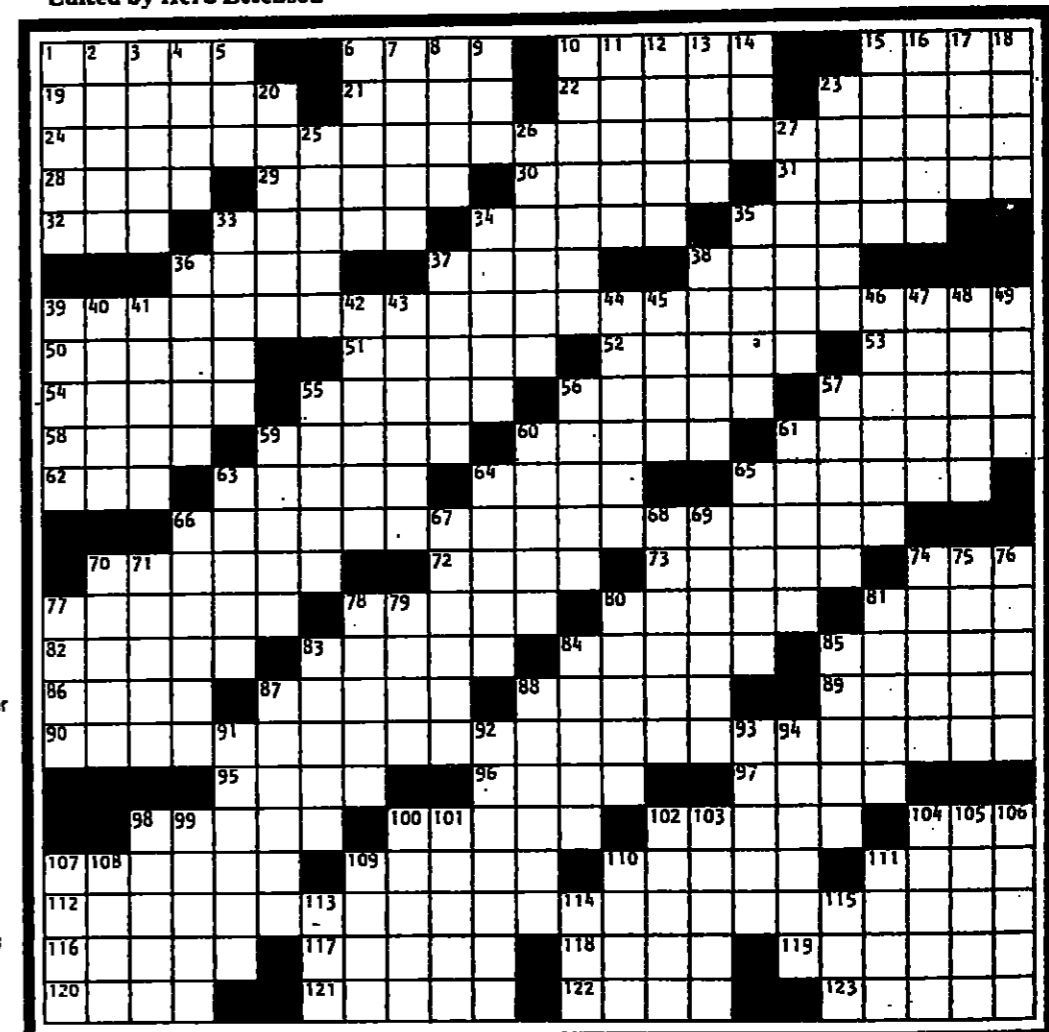
By William Luttwiak

- ACROSS
- Term of address
 - Heavyweight of old
 - Civil War general
 - Far from prudent
 - Menu item
 - Move to action
 - Goose genus
 - Ornate money
 - Judy Garland hit
 - Cupid
 - Barbara and Anthony
 - Made known
 - Bends over
 - Capitol Hill man
 - Flash
 - Holds back
 - Trick
 - Apartment
 - Washer cycle
 - Gino's cash
 - Where Old Faithful performs
 - Diva efforts
 - "It's a way to"
 - Sing in a way
 - Inter- among others
 - Hazards
 - Wide-eyed
 - Does a certain dance
 - Squelch
 - Printing order
 - Golf-shoe feature
 - Clear a
 - Omission
 - signs
 - Comp. pt.
 - Facade
 - Two fives
 - for —
 - Workbench tools
 - Whooped it up
 - County seat of Kerry
 - Kudos to
 - Escamille
 - Hawaiian geese
 - Vest or Murray
 - Doneybrook
 - Old hat
 - Imitated a crow
 - Musical finale
 - Concourse
 - features
 - Emporium
 - antle and
 - others
 - Bends the elbow
 - Come to a sign
 - Burma, India, etc.
 - Facade
 - Two fives
 - for —
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 - others
 - Bends the elbow
 - Come to a sign
 - Burma, India, etc.
 - Facade
 - Two fives
 - for —
 - Workbench tools

- DOWN
- Biblical lawyer
 - Love in Napoli
 - Evil one
 - Contents of tobies
 - Sea gull
 - Pres. van
 - Common contraption
 - Psyches
 - Race an engine
 - Pacific island group
 - Access
 - Residue
 - Thing done
 - Goof
 - Prattle
 - Religious man
 - Splash liquid
 - Wields an axe
 - "of the Jungle"
 - Book of rites
 - Works on mss.
 - Corrosive
 - Star-shaped
 - Enamelled look
 - Used up
 - Trig. functions
 - After snow or corn
 - Stable sound
 - Crude shelter
 - Play areas
 - Eastern
 - Indians
 - Kennedy thread
 - Aperture
 - Certain
 - ester
 - Dictator
 - Debt papers
 - Coupled
 - Very
 - Boffola
 - Neighbor of Oida
 - Solus
 - Looses
 - Swamis
 - Utters
 - Kerman or
 - the Way
 - Set right
 - Plummet
 - Strongman
 - Bancroft
 - Believing
 - Dizzy
 - Flesh fruit: var.
 - a turn
 - with
 - Wild kid
 - Ruth and Herman
 - Oriental nursemaid
 - Fiber from a shrub
 - Sulky one
 - Profoundly old style
 - Monroe and Hines
 - Crush underfoot
 - Mexican turnovers
 - Theater district
 - To boot
 - Acts the miser
 - Of service: var.
 - Stadium
 - Upfit section
 - More qualified
 - Test the flavor of
 - Two-masted vessels
 - Certain consonants
 - Food fish
 - Buddhist temple
 - Nabokov heroine
 - Reporter's query

THE Sunday Crossword

(formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Ettenson



The first Arab airline to directly link
Amman & Damascus with

New York

ALIA, THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRLINE,
AND SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES

ARE CUTTING THE DISTANCE AND TIME BETWEEN THE
EAST AND THE WEST WITH THEIR DIRECT FLIGHT.

STARTING JULY 11, 1977.

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ON BOARD THE MOST MODERN JETS

JUMBO 747

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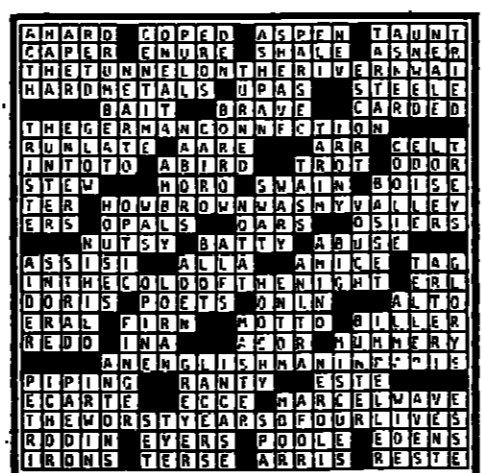


Diagramless

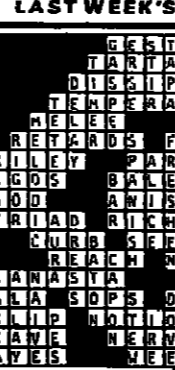
- ACROSS
- Cover with asphalt
 - Roman official
 - Rise
 - L.A. player
 - Tent dealer
 - Crossword abbr.
 - Baltimore
 - Expertness
 - Boy-girl event
 - Frost poem
 - Remarkable
 - Guido's notes
 - Excursion
 - Endangered layer
 - Possessive
 - Cuckoo
 - Whip
 - Loop
 - Tire out
 - Medic
 - Gourmand
 - Short-tailed cat
 - One who nominates
 - Relative of rd.
 - Against
 - School letters
 - Piedmont commune
 - Resounded
 - Puts on, as cosmetics
 - Not at all spicy
 - Frost's "The Death of —"
 - De — le-gant
 - Threesomes
 - Francis
 - Mr. Geller
 - Gospel song
 - Violent
 - Comedian
 - Carl
 - Night noise
 - John Mc —
 - Landlord's due
 - Oyster find
 - Commercial
 - Singer
 - Damone
 - Growing out
 - Scott
 - Cupola
 - Russ. town
 - Shore of
 - Song
 - Boon
 - Wallach or Whitney
 - Landlord's due
 - Giraffe's cousin
 - Wire measure

19 X 19, by Michael Priestley

- DOWN
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 - Landlord's due
 - Giraffe's cousin
 - Wire measure



SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES



1. BJXXF KQF XUCCE XRCC XRCU XQ KUXX
KJZZF QB QCZ KQRX. —By Earl Ireland

2. EZLRS MONYMY BIZKEMPA, KZERC
ZOOTSUZUP ZLITYA UCBMKZAUTRS ZA
ANTUKZAM. —By Frederick W. Chesson

3. WHY IFANTEPAIR YPHY WOHP YFZMCL
ENCO'R YANIP PANTER PZEO NTEOF
JOHWL GFZMCJL GOHFR. —By Barbara J. Rugg

4. MPHMPH. LRU AOMUI'B BPT, BLIPGUY
SPHU LSBBUDE STY SDD ROE APIC ASB
YPTU. —By Rose Santora

Last Week's Cryptograms

- Daughters bought Father's Day gift of monogrammed, blue satia necktie for lucky papa.
- Cool couple bought a big house to use for fuel (piece by piece) during wintry weather.
- Toe dancer crashed. He tripped on his own shadow.
- Case of the fantods precedes actress' appearance here.

Amin denies reported plots

NAIROBI, June 25 (R). — President Idi Amin has denied that an attempt was made to assassinate him, Radio Uganda reported today.

The radio broadcast, monitored here, followed a report in a Nairobi newspaper that the president personally led troops in a fierce eight-hour battle last Saturday to crush rebels who sought to overthrow him.

The paper, the Daily Nation, quoted a Ugandan major who had fled to Kenya as saying the plot against President Amin had been in preparation for a year and involved nearly 1,000 Ugandans.

The major said the plotters had been betrayed and had been surprised by the forces led by the president three hours before they planned to take action. They ran out of ammunition in the ensuing battle and had been forced to flee.

Radio Uganda, however, said President Amin had told a visiting group of black American exiles that Ugandan exiles tra-

ined by imperialists had tried to infiltrate the country to cause chaos. The exiles had been detected and either repulsed or captured.

Those arrested would be tried according to Uganda's laws, he added.

Yesterday, Uganda Radio said he gave a reception for the group on an island in Lake Victoria and played the accordion for them. Today, it said he denied the assassination attempt when he gave them an interview at a Kampala hotel.

The radio said he also denied that any Ugandan troops had defected. He told the Americans that reports of Ugandan soldiers fleeing to Kenya were the work of Zionists and imperialists.

President Amin said he was happy with the cooperation of the Ugandan armed forces and their readiness to defend the integrity of the country.

The Daily Nation quoted a "military contact" in Kampala as saying five Soviet-supplied MIG jets were blown up at En-

tebbe air base on President Amin's orders in an assault launched after he had learned air force personnel were responsible for an attack on his motorcade last Saturday.

Shooting went on over the weekend until Monday, and at least 50 air force officers were killed, the paper said.

It quoted the Ugandan major -- who refused to be named or photographed -- as saying: "Our main aim was to collect as many weapons and as much ammunition as possible, and then attack strategic points, including air force facilities, parliament buildings, President Amin's command post and others."

He went on: "The coup was planned to take place on June 18. We were shocked when Amin's well-equipped marines and specialised mechanised reconnaissance battalion launched a surprise attack on us at 10 a.m. there was an eight-hour exchange of fire in which

ch many soldiers from both sides were killed."

According to the Ugandan major, army officers, businessmen and Ugandans already in exile were involved in the plot against the president. It was also backed by an anti-Amin organisation known as the Uganda Liberation Movement.

The newspaper said arms and ammunition had been stockpiled secretly over a long period.

The major said President Amin led his men in the battle. The rebels, he said, were armed and prepared for only a quick strike, and were not ready for a long fight. They ran out of ammunition and had to retreat.

"Many soldiers ran to neighbouring countries. Others are hiding in the bush," the Daily Nation quoted him as saying.

"We could be controlling Uganda now if we had not been betrayed. Our aim was to get Amin first."

Sunday Times report occasions probe of Israeli torture, says Palestinian official

PARIS, June 25 (R). — The President of the Palestinian Red Crescent, Dr. Fathi Arafat, said here yesterday that an article in the London Sunday Times newspaper on Israeli torture of Arab prisoners reinforces the case for an international commission of inquiry.

Israel has strongly denied the report, which quoted Arab detainees as saying torture was routinely used in Israeli jails.

Dr. Arafat said the World Health Organization had tried to send a commission to the Israeli-occupied West Bank to inquire into health and medical standards, but permission had been refused by the Israeli government.

Dr. Arafat was speaking to reporters after visiting French hospitals with members of the Red Crescent medical organisation.

"We will continue to condemn Israeli treatment of Palestinians in the West Bank area when it contravenes the Geneva Convention," Dr. Arafat said, adding that ill-treatment was frequent.

Joint communique ends Qadhafi's Yugoslav visit

BELGRADE, June 25 (Agencies). — Yugoslavia and the Libyan Jamahiriya today called for the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war before peace could be achieved in the region.

A communique issued here today after four days of talks between Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and Yugoslav President Tito also said that peace could not be achieved without the Palestinians securing their legitimate rights, including the right to an independent state on "their own territory".

Yugoslavia welcomed Libyan initiatives to convene an Arab summit because Arab countries must overcome their problems, the communique said.

The two countries also said they were concerned over conflicts between some African countries which were breaking the unity of the continent, necessary for the liquidation of colonialism, according to the communique.

They called on non-aligned nations to preserve their unity in order to maintain their positive role in international relations and the United Nations," the communique said.

The communique was issued from the Adriatic Island of Brioni, where President Tito has a residence. Col. Qadhafi left Yugoslavia today, after talks in what the communique called "an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship."

The two leaders noted that the recent north-south conference in Paris between industrialised and developing countries had "not obtained satisfactory results" to help developing countries and establish an international economic order, the communique said.

They therefore urged the non-aligned and other developing countries to act together to establish fair international relations.

President Tito had accepted an invitation to visit Libya at a date to be arranged, the communique said.

Ethiopian leaders parade their People's Militia

LONDON, June 25 (R). — Ethiopia's military rulers paraded their newly-raised People's Militia in Addis Ababa today and warned the nation that it was surrounded by enemies, Ethiopia Radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored here, gave no indication of the size of the parade. It said regular soldiers joined militia men in the review, officially described in advance as "a display of modern military tactics and war strategy."

Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the ruling Military Council (the Dergue), was quoted as telling the troops:

"Just as revolutionary Russia lived by Ethiopia Radio, Col. Mengistu chanted slogans and warned the nation that it was surrounded by enemies, Ethiopia Radio reported."

Ethiopia has charged that neighbouring Somalia and Sudan are coordinating efforts to isolate the country by blowing up a major rail link and banning Ethiopian flights over Sudan.

In a 22-minute speech bro-

denouncing imperialism, capitalism and feudalism.

"The revolutionary torch ignited by our country with the blood of her struggling sons has scorched our internal and external enemies," he said.

"Therefore, in their fear and alarm, they have risen against us, coordinating their forces. They have risen together, from one corner to the other, to violate the boundaries of the motherland."

Col. Mengistu accused "reactionary adventures" of plotting against Ethiopia and showing disrespect to its people.

"From now onwards," he declared, "this plotting and disrespect will not be taken easily. It will result in the loss of many lives for the masses of the region."

"Therefore, we say to them (the adventurers): Draw back your evil hands. Let there be no waste of time about this."

Col. Mengistu accused Somalia of designs on Djibouti, the Red Sea enclave which celebrates its independence from France on Monday.

"Today," he said, "the political and military policy of Somalia in regard to Djibouti and other matters could be a blind march forward -- a policy that might result in her losing what she already possesses while attempting to take what belongs to others."

The Dergue chairman pledged Ethiopia's strong opposition to "any kind of interference against the independence and territorial integrity of the people of Djibouti."

Ethiopia Radio said today's big parade was staged at the capital's old airport.

The new People's Militia is said to number about 300,000 men. Up to 100,000 of them have been training for weeks in tented camps outside Addis Ababa.

Soweto buries youth said beaten to death by police

JOHANNESBURG, June 25 (R). — Hundreds of black students lined the streets of Soweto township outside Johannesburg today for the funeral of Mr. Philemon Tloane, 17, alleged to have been beaten to death by police last week.

Armed police were stationed near the Methodist Church in Diepkloof during the funeral but no incidents were reported.

The youth's body was found on open ground in Soweto on June 15, the day before the anniversary of last year's bloody clashes in the township.

Black witnesses said they saw police beat him with clubs but Soweto police denied the allegation.

Soweto was reported quiet today following Thursday's disturbances in which the township's police chief Brig. Jan Visser said two people were killed and 23 wounded.

Brig. Visser said the two who died were a youth of about 16, Mr. Thami Bunge, shot by police as he stoned a police car, and a 19-year-old girl whose body was found yesterday.

The brigadier said he had sworn statements from wit-

ness that the girl, whose name has not been released, was throwing stones in an area of Soweto where police fired shots on Thursday.

"We have assumed from this that the woman was shot on Thursday," he told Reuters.

Gen. W. Kotze, Divisional Commissioner of Police for the Witwatersrand area said 30 of the 146 students arrested after a demonstration outside police headquarters in Johannesburg on Thursday had been charged with holding an unlawful procession.

He said they will appear in court on Monday.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the policeman who operates South Africa's latest "riot" control device, the "sneeze machine," was today in hospital suffering from tear gas poisoning.

Police said Capt. Johan Botha was taken to hospital on Thursday after being over-exposed to the mixture of tear gas and talcum powder used to control crowds of students in the township of Soweto.

Capt. Botha was expected to be released from hospital later today.



ETHIOPIA'S MILITIA -- Members of Ethiopia's People's Militia brandish weapons during their rally Saturday in Addis Ababa. (AP wirephoto).

Botha tells Waldheim Namibia problem can be resolved

UNITED NATIONS, June 25 (Agencies). — South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha told Secretary General Kurt Waldheim last night the basis for an internationally-accepted solution of the future of Namibia (South West Africa) now exists.

Meeting reporters after a two-hour meeting with the U.N. chief, Mr. Botha did not supply any details of a possible accord.

He declined to say what was Dr. Waldheim's reaction to ar-

rangements worked out so far Namibian nationalist movement SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) in the coming elections.

Journalists told the minister to task about South Africa's apartheid system and its refusal to accept black majority rule. Mr. Botha hit back with an accusation that news about his country in the United States was "distorted beyond recognition. The U.S. media are obsessed and looking with magnifying glasses at every incident in South Africa," he said.

He added that Pretoria wo-

uld "welcome with pleasure" peaceful participation by the People's Organisation in the coming elections.

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He added that Pretoria wo-

Vance: Strains in U.S.-Soviet ties involve human rights issue

PARIS, June 25 (AFP). — Relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union include "strains" in several areas, particularly involving human rights, American Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said here last night.

But fruitful discussions between the two countries nevertheless continued over issues including a nuclear test ban and "arms limitation measures" in the Indian Ocean area, he added.

"The fact that we have differences in certain areas does not mean that we are not talking in other areas," Mr. Vance said.

He was speaking at a press conference after attending the annual ministerial meeting of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development).

Mr. Vance also had a series of talks during the day with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and the foreign ministers of West Germany, Finland, Canada, Norway, the Netherlands, Japan, Portugal and New Zealand.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing reported the views on a number of matters of Soviet Communist Party chief and head of state Leonid Brezhnev, who visited France earlier this week.

Mr. Vance said. He would inform President Jimmy Carter of these views today, Mr. Vance added. At the same time the talks with the foreign ministers had been "very helpful and useful."

Mr. Vance said differences between the U.S. and the Soviet Union over the strategic arms limitation -- SALT -- talks remained substantial, though some progress had been made in Geneva with "a general framework for an agreement in SALT 2."

"There are other differences which we have with respect to such matters as human rights, as to how these matters should be handled," he added.

Asked about a meeting he had on Thursday with British Foreign Secretary David Owen, and what initiatives could be expected for the Rhodesian problem, Mr. Vance said they had been in daily communication with each other, and "in consultation with all the parties" involved in a settlement.

"With respect to what a new (Rhodesian) constitution might look like, and other matters, I would not want to discuss (that) now," he added.

Spiro Agnew gets tax bill

WASHINGTON, June 25 (R). — Former U.S. Vice President Spiro Agnew has been presented by the Internal Revenue Service with a bill for \$13,986 in back taxes and penalties for 1973 -- the year he resigned in disgrace over an income tax evasion charge.

The inland revenue said Mr. Agnew had failed to declare as income nearly \$27,000 worth of government-paid air travel and home improvements, free food from a grocery chain executive and other prerequisites.

The tax bill came to light when Mr. Agnew, on Thursday, filed an appeal in the U.S. Tax Court contesting the assessment. He is entitled to a trial before a judge but no criminal charges are involved.

Mr. Agnew resigned as Vice President in October 1973 after pleading no contest to tax evasion charges.

One of the conditions of his resignation was that Mr. Agnew, who was also under investigation for alleged corruption, would not be prosecuted for any other crime.

The Jordanian Hotel and Tourism Co. announces to specialised contractors that it has concluded an agreement with the American company George A. Fuller to carry out and administer the construction of an extension to the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

Contractors interested in the execution of this work should contact the company's offices at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel to receive necessary details from the morning of Saturday, June 25 until Monday, June 27 during office hours.

Ziad Ennah
Chairman.

Carter supports devoting 1979 to anti-cancer action

BONN, June 25 (R). — President Carter has supported a proposal to make 1979 a year of international action to fight cancer, the West German Cancer Research Foundation said yesterday. The proposal was made by Dr. Mildred Scheel, wife of West German President Walter Scheel and founder of the German cancer organisation. She wants the year of action to be sponsored by the World Health Organisation (WHO). In a personal letter to Dr. Scheel, President Carter said he supported her wish for "worldwide cooperation for improving cancer care and research." He added: "I find your initiative to inaugurate such a project very praiseworthy." He said he would ask the American secretary of state and the health secretary for proposals on how to promote the idea of an international action year within the WHO. Dr. Scheel is due to discuss her plan with the Director General of the WHO, Dr. Halfdan Mahler, in Geneva next week.

News focus

Djibouti becomes independent on Monday -- to face a forbidding list of problems

PARIS, June 25 (AFP). At midnight Sunday the French flag will be hauled down over African soil for the last time as the country's remaining colony there, the Territory of Afars and Issas, becomes the independent Republic of Djibouti.

Striking the Tricolour ends 115 years of French presence in this 23,000 sq. kms. state, strategically located in the Horn of Africa at the mouth of the Red Sea and the door to the Indian Ocean.

Independence, overwhelmingly sought by the country's 250,000 inhabitants in a referendum in May, is expected to put this climatic oven into the political hot seat as rival neighbours and opposing superpowers woo or pressurise the fledgling government and first President, 61-year-old Mr. Hassan Gouled, who was elected on Thursday.

Observers see the new republic's future as being less in the hands of the Afars, of

Ethiopian descent, or the Issas of Somali descent, who make up its population, than in those of regional and major powers.

Ethiopia, dependent on Djibouti for access to the sea, and Somalia, known to have long-term annexation plans for the territory on the grounds of population make-up, are already bitterly at odds and keenly interested in Djibouti's future.

Soviet penetration in the Horn of Africa, as well as the superpowers' rivalry in the Indian Ocean, add further complicating dimensions. And Moslem Djibouti is also a key factor in plans by the region's Arab states, particularly Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Egypt, reportedly to turn the Red Sea into an "Arab lake", and to use the new republic to counter Soviet influence in the area.

Politically, leaders of the 65-seat parliament have already outlined their plans: Internal democracy, external non-

alignment and neutrality. They say Djibouti will maintain friendly relations with every country that respects the republic's sovereignty, starting with France, with whom they want to sign broad cooperation agreements.

France and the Djibouti government have already signed a military protocol which, informed sources said, provided for a continued French military presence of about 4,500 men after independence.

France would also give Djibouti's army broad military assistance. The country is planning its own army with an initial force of 3,000 men, including 500 gendarmes, 1,000 territorial guards and 500 members of autonomous nomadic groups.

Ethiopia has 50,000 men under arms and Somalia

35,000. Economic problems are also to the forefront. Djibouti's port, which, with the rail link to the Ethiopian capital of Ad-

dis Ababa, provides all the country's revenue, ran up a deficit of 60 million Djibouti francs (\$33 million) last year. This year it is expected to reach 100 million francs (\$56 million).

The deficit came despite booming trade following the reopening of the Suez Canal and congestion affecting the rival Red Sea Port of Jeddah in Saudi Arabia. Port competition from Jeddah and Aden (South Yemen) is increasing and the replacement of the professional Somali longshoremen by unskilled local labour has added to Djibouti's problems.

The Djibouti-Addis Ababa rail link was cut by sabotage on June 1 -- an act Ethiopia blamed on Somalia and one which bodes ill for the future.

Traditional hostility between the Afars and Issas is another problem Djibouti will have to solve, starting from midnight tomorrow.

White House: New neutron warhead less dangerous than other weapons

WASHINGTON, June 25 (R). — A new neutron warhead designed for use in Europe would be a lesser danger to civilians and friendly troops than regular nuclear weapons, the White House said yesterday.

White House spokesman Jody Powell said the neutron warhead, on which President Carter will make a final decision later this year, was designed to inflict casualties on enemy soldiers in a specific area and had 10 times less fire, blast and fallout than regular atomic devices.

The Ford administration began development of the warhead which spews neutron rays lethal to humans over a wide area. Other atomic weapons are designed to devastate buildings and other constructions.

Mr. Powell said President Carter, in his final review of the new 1979 defence budget, would decide whether the neutron warhead should be deployed on the 100 kms. range Lance missiles in Europe.

Last week congressional committees approved \$5.7 million left in the 1978 budget for the

warhead's development by the Carter administration when it took office in January.

In a related development, Sen. Claiborne Pell said yesterday he had asked the administration to assess the impact of the warhead's development on arms control efforts.

Sen. Pell, who is Chairman of the Senate Arms Control Subcommittee, said in his written request that the warhead proposal raised a number of critically important arms control questions, and speculated that deployment could increase the likelihood of nuclear war.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* NEW DELHI, June 2 (R). — India's opposition Congress Party won an increased share of votes in eight of the 10 states where assembly elections were held this month, according to official figures. The Janata (People's) Party, despite its clear victories in seven of the 10 states, won a much lower percentage of votes than at the general elections in March.

* UNITED NATIONS, New York, June 25 (AFP). — The Security Council will meet here on Tuesday to hear Mozambique's complaint that Rhodesian cross-border raids have escalated into an invasion. Mozambique's Vice President, Marcelino dos Santos, due here tomorrow, will present his country's case.

* ALGIERS, June 25 (AFP). — French Ambassador to Algiers Guy de Commynes today handed Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Bouteflika a message from French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud, official sources said here. The ambassador and Mr. Bouteflika also discussed Franco-Algerian relations in the light of Mr. Bouteflika's recent statement on broadening cooperation between the two countries and the French position outlined last Tuesday by French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the sources said.

* ROME, June 25 (AFP). — British Conservative leader Margaret Thatcher had a private audience with Pope Paul VI here today. A spokesman at the British Embassy said it was the first time the leader of a British opposition party had visited a Pope, as far as could be remembered. The talk was more political than religious in nature, the spokesman said.

* TOKYO, June 25 (R). — The Japanese authorities today sent home by air a 25-year-old American who last month tried to hijack a U.S. Jumbo Jet by holding a razor to the neck of a woman passenger. Police said the man, identified as Mr. Bruce Trayer of Wisconsin, had undergone psychiatric examinations which proved him to have been mentally disturbed when he staged the abortive hijack attempt on May 8. Police said no charges were brought against him.

* MOSCOW, June 25 (R). — Soviet astronomers at the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory have discovered a new comet. First news agency reported yesterday. The comet is orbiting the sun on an elliptical path at an average distance of 600 million kms., Tass said.

* WASHINGTON, June 25 (AFP). — Miles are miles and kilometres are metric, and never the twain shall meet on U.S. highway signposts. American response to the metric system has been so overwhelmingly negative that the Federal Highway Administration has given up plans to post distances in kilometres. FHWA Director William Cox announced here today. A \$100 million project was to have resulted in all highway signs giving metric figures by 1982. Mr. Cox said that comments received on the proposed conversion had been "about 98 per cent negative," and that he had no intention of bringing up the idea again at a later date.

* MOSCOW, June 25 (AFP). — A puffball mushroom weighing more than 11 kgs. and measuring 1.5 metres in diameter has been found in Kirgizia, Soviet Central Asia. It was reported here today. The area is reputed for giant mushrooms, but the largest puffballs rarely exceed three kgs.